

BID SPECIFICATIONS

The intended system will provide emergency messages via text messaging (SMS {text} and email) to subscribers in a geographical area. This information is distributed locally using the data subcarrier of Frequency Modulated (FM) radio stations. This system will allow emergency management officials to create and send digital alerts and messages to recipients such as first responders, school officials, other defined groups, businesses, and citizens based on geographic or organizational groupings.

These messages may be originated by nine specific counties within Alabama and/or the Alabama Emergency Management Agency. Those nine counties are Pickens, Sumter, Lamar, Wilcox, Dallas, Marengo, Greene, Hale and Perry (collectively, the "Black Belt Counties").

Messages that are generated are displayed on data-capable devices and/or dedicated receivers and/or any other device utilizing a USB type port.

The proposed system must meet all of the following requirements:

- A. Must be able to send automated NOAA weather warnings and alerts. The system must be able to be configured so that NOAA warnings are delivered county specific instead of the entire state or area.
- B. Must be able to send alerts and messages from county emergency management agencies and the Alabama Emergency Management Agency.
- C. Message must be delivered using commercial FM broadcast signals.
- D. Must contain a web-based administrative portal that will provide the ability to send messages using any internet portal using a secure password and login connection. The Web-based administrative portals must control message origination, group creation and management, and contain sub-administration capabilities. The administrative portal must detail message delivery with time, date and sender.
- E. There must be no recurring usage fees, messaging fees, or maintenance fees for the county or state after the license is paid. All coordination with the local broadcaster will be the responsibility of the selected vendor.
- F. The selected vendor must be able to train each of the county emergency management agency directors on how to access the portal, administer the system, originate messages and program any receivers.
- G. The notification system must allow single point messaging to multi-point end users. It must be able to be configured so that warnings are delivered to the entire county, individual zip codes or selected groups within 90 seconds after activation.

H. The system must be able to be configured to send messages to groups (i.e. emergency managers, county administrators, first responders, school administrators or citizens).

I. The system must allow messages to be received by end users inside buildings.

J. The system must not be limited to the number of messages it can send at a time (i.e. can't use a telephone network to limit the number of calls to be made). The alert messaging system must be independent of switched telephone systems.

K. Receivers must be able to be mobile without losing addressability or message receipt capability. The system must be able to send messages anywhere within the county and not be limited by end user location.

L. System should be capable to interface with the State of Mississippi FM warning notification system.

M. The total amount of funding for this project is \$250,000. This must be able to purchase a license that will pay for the system build out, licensing, portal and operation.

N. Accessories, (such as strobe lights and text to voice converters) must be available for alerting blind and deaf citizens. Unit must be capable of accommodating ADA compliant external handicapped accessible peripheral devices such as strobes, pillow vibrator, etc.

O. The project must be completed and fully operational by September 30, 2010.

2. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND COMMENTS: The bid should include any additional information that is believed to be pertinent but not explicitly asked for elsewhere in this ITB.